



**West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc  
Elbow Lake, MN**

<b>Project Title</b>	Family Assets for Independence in Minnesota II
<b>Contact Information</b>	Carol Boyer 411 Industrial Park Boulevard Elbow Lake, MN 56531 (218) 685-6174
<b>AFI Grant Amount</b>	\$1,000,000
<b>Nonfederal Support</b>	\$1,000,000
<b>Project Period</b>	September 2003 – September 2008
<b>Highlights</b>	West Central Minnesota Community Action is building upon an existing State-based IDA program and offering 403 new IDAs. This includes 201 for homeownership, 101 for microenterprise, and 101 for post-secondary education. The match rate is \$3 to \$1, up to \$960 in participant savings accumulated over a 24 month period. Participants will work with coaches to develop Economic Empowerment Action Plans to follow over their two-year enrollment in the program. In addition to core training, participants have access to employment support.
<b>Target Population</b>	State of Minnesota.
<b>Grantee/Collaborative Description</b>	West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc. is a Community Action Agency (CAA) and operates the existing State-based IDA: Family Assets for Independence in Minnesota (FAIM). Under this new project, 23 collaborators (e.g., Women Venture, City County Federal Credit Union and numerous CAAs, such as Minnesota Valley Action, Anoka County CAP, Ramsey Action Program, Duluth Community Action) are doing outreach, account opening, case management, financial literacy, and asset training. Bremer Bank and City County Federal Credit Union waived account fees and support financial education for participants. Matching funds of \$500,000 were provided by the State of Minnesota.